The
THOREAU SOCIETY
BULLETIN

The Thoreau Society, Inc. is an informal gathering of students and followers of Henry David Thoreau. Anne Root McGrath, Concord, Mass., president; Mrs. Charles MacPherson, Acton, Mass., vice-president; and Walter Harding, State University, Geneseo, N.Y. 14454, secretary-treasurer. Annual membership $3.00; life membership, $100.00. Address communications to the secretary.

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BULLETIN ONE HUNDRED FIFTY-FIVE US I S S N 0040-6406 SPRING 1981

A NEW CARTE-DE-VISITE OF THOREAU WH

Robert H. Miller of Spring Green, Wisconsin, has called our attention to a carte-de-visite portrait of Thoreau that escaped our attention when Thomas Blanding and I wrote our "Thoreau Iconography" published as Thoreau Society Booklet #30 last fall. Carte-de visites are, of course, those miniature copies of photographs of the well-known that were so popular in the latter half of the nineteenth century. In our essay we reported the existence of carte-de-visite reproductions of the Rowse crayon portrait of Thoreau. Mr. Miller now reports that he has a carte-de-visite of the Dunshee ambrotype, the last photograph of Thoreau taken before his death. He reports it to be rendered in sepia, the image itself measuring 1 3/4 x 1 1/2, printed on photographic paper measuring 3 1/2 x 2 1/4 and mounted on cardboard measuring 4 x 2 3/8. On the back is printed "Black & Case, Photographic Artists, Boston & Newport, R.I." He discovered it laid in a copy of the first edition of A Yankee in Canada that he purchased from a New York dealer some ten years ago.

Although it is not dated, we imagine it precedes what we cited in our "Iconography" as the first publication of the Dunshee ambrotype in the March 26, 1881 issue of the Critic. Does anyone know of other copies of this carte-de-visite, or is it a unique survival? Can anyone give us any clues as to when it was issued and under what circumstances?

Feb. 28, 1855

THE LAST WILL OF ESTIENNE THOREAU by J. R. Audet and Wendell Glick

Deposited under the care of the Judicial Greffe of the Island of Jersey in St. Helier, among thousands of other wills, are five belonging to the ancestors of Henry Thoreau. Four of the five are easily attributable to ancestors of the Thoreau line established in Jersey by Jean [?] Thoreau who emigrated from Poitou in 1685, fleeing the persecution of Louis XIV. Three of these four are wills left by first cousins of Henry Thoreau's grandfather, Jean, who emigrated to Boston in 1773. But one of the wills is an enigma. It was executed by one Estienne Tiereaux on 14 January, 1736, and the name "Estienne" does not reappear at any point in the prolific Thoreau line. The question arises, who was this Estienne Tiereaux who died the year following his execution of his will, in 1737? And given the propensity of the Thoreaus to repeat male given names faithfully in each generation, why is there but one Estienne?

The will itself, published below in facsimile and in translation, provides some answers and suggests some hypotheses.

Estienne had also fled from France to Jersey, like Jean, progenitor of the Henry Thoreau line, and Jean's son, Pierre, who was apparently about ten years old in 1685. Estienne died in 1737, Pierre in 1740. Of the same generation, both emigrated from France about 1685, both dying about 55 years later. Were they brothers, both sons of Jean? The different spellings of the surname, "Tiereau" in the first line of the will, and "Tiereaux" at the end where the mark is sworn, should give no concern. The Thoreaus were peasants. They could not write, and the scribes who prepared their wills for them spelled French phonetically. Estienne's scribe was apparently uncertain how Estienne spelled his surname, and Estienne presumably didn't know either.

The answer as to why the name "Estienne" fails to reappear in the Thoreau genealogy is also circumstantially answered by the will itself. Estienne made no bequests to his wife or children, nor is there mention of them. After an initial bequest of "ten Sterling Shillings" to the parish poor, he left property or money to the two sons of his "host," the five daughters of his nephew, his goddaughter, and the daughter of his cousin. Twenty shillings and items of clothing were to go to the father of his goddaughter. In his old age, he was apparently being cared for by distant relatives and friends, not by his own children. The clear supposition is that he had no issue. If the immigrant, Pierre, was indeed his brother, why then was Estienne not living with him? The answer is, presumably, that Pierre

was also in his seventies and was to die three years later, and was probably in no position to care for anyone. Moreover, Pierre resided in the parish of St. Mary's, on the far side of the island from the parish of St. Helier, where Estienne lived.

The language of the will is a cultural curiosity. Written in 1736, it reflects the French spoken and written at least two centuries earlier. The archaic spelling of certain words such as: "isle" for île (1.2); "connoissant" for connaissant (1.4); "pourquoy" for pourquoi (1.6); "pleu" for plu (1.9); "esternel" for éternel (1.14); "moy" for moi (1.18,41); "foy" for foi (1.19); "estre" for être (1.21, 27, 35); "aussy" for aussi (1.23, 26); "esgalle" for égale (1.27, 36); "oste" for hôte (1.29, 42); "reconnoissance" for reconnaissance (1.37); "laist" for legs (1.40); "loyeaument" for loyalement (1.41); "jusques à" for jusqu'à (1.44); "prians" for priant (1.47); "tesmoingnage" for témoignage (1.53); and "requeste" for requête (1.53); brings to mind the writings of Jacques Cartier, who discovered Canada in 1534, and the poems of François Villon (1431-1463?), while the works of Lafontaine, Corneille, and Molière show that by the seventeenth century, French spelling had already evolved to its present day form. This would tend to prove that the scribe who took down this Last Will -and we may presume him to be representative of the residents of the Island of Jersey - had been separated from the French spoken then in France for a long time.

The following grammatical and orthographical errors reveal that even though the scribe had a certain knowledge of the legal jargon of the time ("ladte," "item," "codecille," etc. see translation), he could not have been very well educated in the French language. Expressions like "jay sous signe ou merche" for je soussigné ou marqué (1.1) cannot be attributed to inattention. Neither can "plussieurs année" for plusieurs années (1.2, 4); "profetion" for profession (1.2); "a cablé" for accablé (1.4); "viellesse" for vieillesse (1.4); "quil" for qu'il (1.5); "touts" for tous (1.5); "pandant" for pendant (1.6); "men" for m'en (1.6); "quand" (when) for quant (regarding) (1.7); "bien meuble" for biens meubles (1.9); "favorisser" for favoriser (1.10); "souhaitte" for souhaite (1.10); "la rachettée for l'a rachetée (1.12); "biens heureurs" for bienheureux (1.15); "mais (but) amis" for mes (my) amis (1.16); "ensepulturé" for enseveli or enterré (1.16); "decentement" for décemment (1.17); "fidelle" for fidèles (1.18), and so on and so forth on just about every line of the Testament, right down to the end, with "icy est la merche de E T" for ici est la marque de E. T.

One thing, however, is certain: everyone on the Island of Jersey who could sound French out could understand exactly what the last will of Estienne Tiereaux said. Below is the English translation, followed by a facsimile of the French original.

In the Name of God Let it be so

I the undersigned, or initialed Estienne Tiereau having taken Refuge on this Island of Jersey many years ago to profess the Protestant Religion, finding myself for many years besieged by sickness in my old age & thereby knowing that it is decreed that all men should die once it is why I have found appropriate while God gives me the time for it physically (regarding the body) sick but Thanks to God Sound of Mind, & of good Comprehension I have found Appropriate to make my Testament & to dispose of the few personal possessions that it has pleased God to favor me with in this world in the way that I wish that they be taken care of after my death. First I commend my soul to my Creator who has Redeemed It through the precious Blood of my Saviour Jesus Christ His Beloved Son, Whom I pray to receive It at the Exit of this Body in His Eternal rest among the Blessed Ones, & as for my Body I leave it in Care of my friends to be Sepultured decently in the Cemetery of the parish of St. Helier with the other faithful who have deceased before me in the faith of my Only Saviour Jesus Christ. First I Give to the Poor of the said parish of St. Helier ten Sterling Shillings (Shelings) once paid to be distributed among them after my death, Item I give to Phil. Blanchard twenty -- Sterling Shillings ("Shelings") also paid one time with all my suits ("habits") & Shirts Covering ("Serving") my Body such as they will be on the Day of my death, Item I give to the five daughters of my nephew Mr. Isaac Biard five Sterling pounds also once paid to be separated amongst them in equal portions, to each one one Sterling pound, Item I give to Jacob & Jean Le Touzel the two sons of my Host Mr. Jacob Le Touzel thirty Sterling Shillings ("Shelings") also one time paid to be separated between them half & half, Item I give & bequeath all the rest of my personal Succession of whatever Nature or Value that it might be either on this Island or elsewhere to Elizabeth Blanchard the daughter of Phl. Blanchard my goddaughter, & to Marie Le Touzel the daughter of the deceased Phl. Le Touzel my Cousin to be shared between the two of them Half & half in equal Portion out of Gratitude for the good Services that the said Marie Le Touzel has rendered me & that I hope she will render me provided that they will see through the costs & charges of having me buried ("ensepultured") decently & of paying the Bequests of aforementioned & all the other debts owed Legally by me, But as my said goddaughter Elizabeth Blanchard is not yet of age I beg my host Mr. Jacob Le Touzel to take Care of the share of the said Blanchard (girl) until she has reached the age of seventeen Revoking and Annulling all other Testaments, or Codicil That I might have made of the preceding Holding this one for my last Will & Testament beseeching my good friends Mr. Louis Macquet & Mr. Jacob Le Touzel to be Executors of this my Testament in order that it be Carried out on all Points according to its contents, in Testimony of which I Undersigned or Initialed at my Residence on this fourteenth Day of January in the year of Grace one Thousand Seven Hundred and Thirty-Six in presence of the Witnesses at (to) my request//

here is the mark
of E T
Estienne Tiereaux

Philippe De Ivetteville witness
Daniel Le Preveu witness

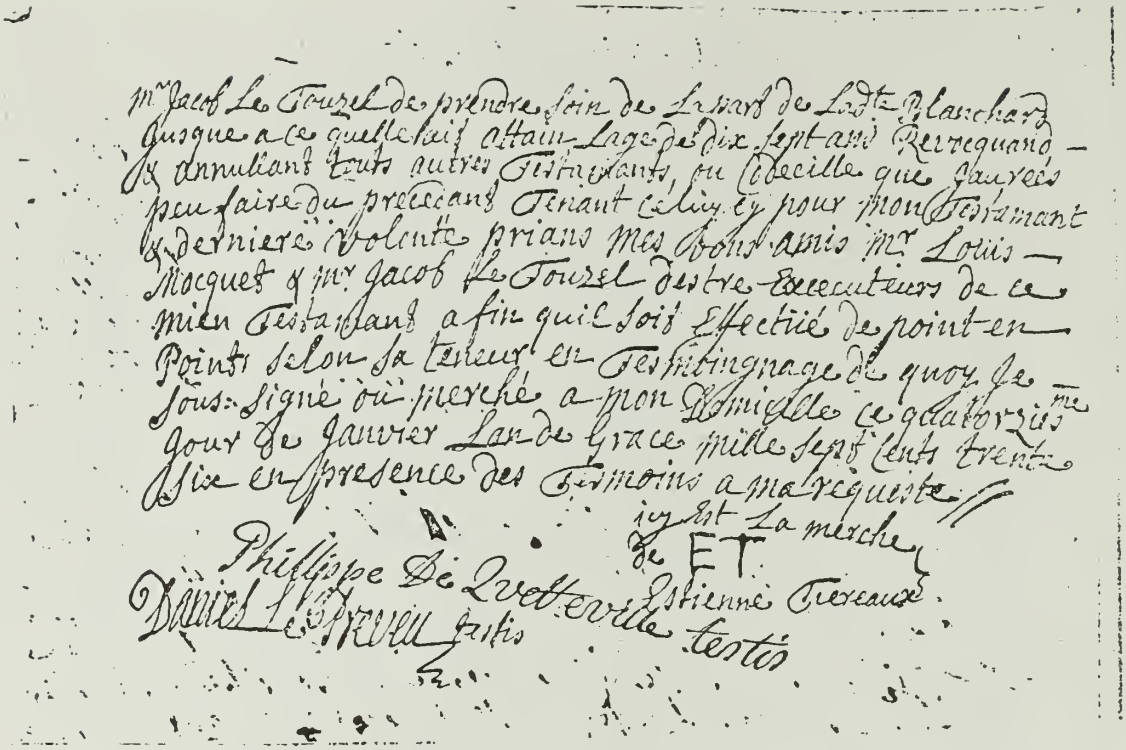
OVER: Testament of Mr.

Estinne Tiereaux
of the 14th of January 1736

(Filed) Entered on the 30th of March 1737, the Executors having taken the required Oath

Au Nom de Dieu Soit amen

Jay sous signé, ou merché Estienne Tiereau Refugié en Cette
Isle de Jersey de puis Plussieurs annee pour faire Profetion
de La Religion Protestante, me trouvant de puis Plussieurs
année a cablé de maladie sur ma viellesse & par La Connoissant
quil Est Ordonné a touts Les Homes de mourir une fois Est pour
quoy ai trouvé a Propos pandant que Dieu men donne Le temps
malade quand au Corps, mais Grace a Dieu Sain d'Esprit, & de
bon Entendement ai trouvé a Propos de faire mon Testament
& dordonner du peu de bien meuble dont il a Pleu a Dieu
de me favorisser en ce monde, Comme Je souhaitte quil en
soit apres ma mort Premier Je recommande mon ame a
mon Createur qui La Rachettée par Le precieux sang de
mon Sauveur Jesus Christ son Cher fils Le quel Je prie
de La recevoir au sortir de ce Corps en son repos Esternel
aux nombre des biens Heureurs, & pour mon Corps Je Le
Laisse au soin de mais amis a Estre en sepulturé de
Cente ment dans Le Cimetiere de La paroisse de St. Helier
avec Les autres fidelle qui sont decedez avant moy en
La foy de mon seul Sauveur Jesus Christ Premier Je
Donne aux Pauvres de Ladte paroisse de St. Helier Dix
shelings sterlings une fois payer a Leurs Estre distribuée
apres ma mort, Item Je donne a Phl Blanchard vingt
shelings sterlings aussy une fois payer avec touts mais Habis
& Cheminze servant a mon Corps tels qui seronts Le Jour de
mondecez, Item Je donne aux Cinq filles de mon neveu mr
Isaac Biard Cinq tt sterlings aussy une fois payer a Leurs
Estre separés entre Elles par Esgalle portion a Chacune une
tt sterlings, Item Je donne a Jacob & Jean Le Touzel
Les deux fils de mon oste mr Jacob Le Touzel trente shelings
sterlings aussy un fois payer a Leur Estre separés entreux deux
moitie par moitie, Item Je Donne & Legüe Tout Le Reste de
ma succession mobillere de quelque nature ou valleur quelle
puisse Estre soit en cette Isle ou ailleur a Elizabeth Blanchard
fille de Phl Blanchard ma filleule, & a Marie Le Touzel fille
de feu Phl Le Touzel ma Cousine a Leurs Estre partagée
Moitié par moitié entre Elles deux par Esgalle Portion pour une
Reconnoissance des bons service que Ladte Marie Touzel ma
rendu & que Jespere quelle me rendra aux Conditions quelles
seronts aux fraix & Charge de me faire en sepulturer
de Centement & de payer Les Laist sudts & toutes autres debtes
par moy Loyeaument deüe or Comme madte filleule Elizabeth
Blanchard nest pas encoré en age Je prie mon oste mr Jacob



Testament de mr
Etienne Tiereaux
du 14me Janvier 1736
Cette Ce 30me Mars
1737 les Executeurs
Testt Ce Pennebreguis

Feb. 3, 1855

THE THOREAU SOCIETY: A HISTORY by Walter Harding

A few issues back of the bulletin to celebrate reaching #150 I wrote a brief note on the story of the founding of the society and then was amazed at the number of poeple who not only expressed an interest but also suggested that I write a much more detailed history of the society "before it is all lost or forgotten." Now this year with the arrival of the fortieth anniversary of the founding of the society and of my secretaryship, it seems an appropriate time to start such a history. So with this issue I will start a series of reminiscenses of the society. They will be highly personal, for as a well known author once said, "I should not talk so much about myself if there were any body else whom I knew as well" and then went on to use the first person singular so frequently that the typesetter ran out of capital i's and had to order more from the type foundry.

Since I do not expect this history to achieve epic proportions, I shall not start "in medias res." In fact, I'll not even start at the beginning. I'll start before the beginning with a little history of how I myself first got interested in Thoreau. I was born and grew up in the little town of Bridgewater, Mass., about forty miles south of Concord. In high school I had the good fortune of having an exceptionally good American literature teacher, Esther O'Hara. She made American literature come so alive for us that I persuaded my parents to take me up to Concord to see where so many of these great authors had lived. Several years ago in my attic I found my diary of that trip and discovered to my amazement that I obviously knew practically nothing about Thoreau at that time. But when I returned home, I began reading everthing I could lay my hands about Concord and the Concord authors starting with Emerson and then moving on to Hawthorne. Gradually and almost subconsciously I began to develop a certain affinity for Thoreau, just why I do not know, but perhaps it was because I was already an ardent birdwatcher and he spoke more about the birds than did the other authors. Nonetheless I continued to read the others, apparently feeling I should save the best for the last. Eventually I reached the point where I knew I just had to read Thoreau, but instead of going to the library and taking out some of his books, I was so sure of myself that I scraped together a dollar out of my virtually non-existent funds and bought a copy of the old Burt edition of Walden. Typographically it was a horror, but it was the only one I could afford. As I started reading, I said to myself, "I'm home at last; I'm home at last," and felt like purring like a kitten on a warm hearth on a cold day. And I've never lost that feeling of being at home with Thoreau in the nearly fif-

ty years since.

By the time I had reached college I had become an unreconstructed Thoreauvian. Fortunately I ran into a second outstanding teacher there--Olive Lovett and she, learning of my interest in Thoreau; did everything she could to enhance it and develop it. Although these were the depression years of the thirties and I was working my way through college, so I never knew where the next day's money was coming from, I began to be a Thoreau collector. I could always hitch a ride into either Boston or Providence and many a Saturday I spent in either one city or the other, roaming the bookstores, with twenty-five cents in my pocket. Fifteen cents would get me a hamburger and a glass of milk in a White Tower, and that left me ten cents to spend on books. It was amazing what one could find on the ten-cent tables in those days. My Thoreau collection began to flourish and I have continued at it ever since. I catalog each item as I acquire it and sometime in the next few months I expect to be cataloging item #10,000, which I rather assume is the largest collection of materials about Thoreau in the world.

In the spring of my senior year in college, I found an almost pristine set of the eleven-volume Riverside Edition of Thoreau for fifteen dollars in a decrepit old bookstore in Providence. I drooled for it, but it might just as well have been a thousand dollars so far as my empty pocketbook was concerned. I mentioned the set at home in a sense of futility. The next morning when I got up, there was fifteen dollars sitting beside my breakfast plate. It just happened to be my birthday and my whole family had scraped their pockets to raise the funds. Ten minutes after breakfast I was on my way to Providence and I got there before the set had been sold.

The next fall I was one of the few in my college class to get a job. I became the teaching principal of a little five-room grammar school in the little town of Northfield, Mass. in the Connecticut River valley at the princely salary of $950 a year. Every evening I turned to reading my new set of Thoreau. But, alas, there was no one in the town interested in talking with me about him. He was absurdly little known then. I remember mentioning to a well educated and cultured man my interest in him and he immediately walked over to his encyclopaedia to look him up to see who he was!

To keep my sanity, I began writing to anyone I heard of who was interested in him, hoping to strike up a correspondence, and when I found enough such people, to try to start some sort of society for our mutual interest. One of the first persons I wrote to was Bill White, who had just published his bibliography of Thoreau--wrote to him at his then alliterative address of William White, Whitman College, Walla Walla, Washington. Bill responded and we have been corresponding on and off ever since. When I suggested to him forming a society, he replied that first I'd have to find someone with the energy and enthusiasm not only to get it going but, more important, to keep it going. That didn't bother me in the least. I was willing and eager to be that person. Another one of the early ones I approached was Albert Lownes of Providence. A Providence book dealer had told me Lownes had a large collection of Thoreau, but warned me that he was very shy and difficult to approach. Nonetheless I wrote him and he responded immediately with a generous invitation to come see his collection. He had at one time thought of writing a biography of Thoreau and had purchased the large collection put together by the New York City book dealer Frank Walters. Then Lownes' interest had become diverted to Darwin and the Thoreau collection sat neglected on his shelves. Here for the first time I saw many of the real Thoreau rarities, but I could not examine them because most of the volumes were uncut!

When I asked Lownes about starting a Thoreau Society, he replied that he thought Raymond Adams already was doing enough in that direction with his little "Thoreau Newsletter," and besides there were certainly not enough people around interested in Thoreau to support such a society. (When later the society was established, Mr. Lownes became one of the first to join and remained a member right up to his death just a few years ago. He never attended a meeting of the society, but he regularly sent communications to the bulletin and was always exceedingly generous in permitting scholars to use his collection which he eventually gave to his alma mater Brown University).

Raymond Adams was on the faculty at the University of North Carolina and had written what was then thought to be the first doctoral disseration on Thoreau. (Since then earlier ones have been discovered at the University of Michigan and at Heidelberg.) In the mid-nineteen-thirties Adams wrote a biography of Thoreau which sadly has never been published. He had established a little mimeographed one or two page "Thoreau Newsletter" filled with reports of his research discoveries and comments on new publications of Thoreauviana that he sent out irregularly to a circle of forty or fifty friends scattered across the country who were interested in Thoreau. I immediately wrote him and he sent me a copy of the latest issue of the Newsletter. I responded so enthusiastically that he sent me a complete backfile and put me on his mailing list. But when I asked him about establishing a society, he too replied that there were not enough interested people around to support any such society.

By now you are probably wondering if I am another Tristam Shandy and am never going to reach the moment of conception in this history. But in the next installment, I assure you, we will get the society at least established.

Feb. 4, 1855

SPECIAL NOTICE TO MEMBERS

Members were informed in the last issue of the Bulletin that certain changes in our by-laws and articles of organization were required in order to confirm our tax-exempt status, which has been granted conditional upon our making these changes.

At the annual meeting in July, the following motions will be presented for action by the members:

Motion #1: To amend the articles of organization by adding the following paragraphs thereto:

> Notwithstanding any other provision of these Articles, the corporation is organized exclusively for charitable, literary, and educational purposes, as specified in Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, and the corporation shall not carry on any activities which are not permitted to be carried on by a corporation exempt from fed-

eral income tax under said Section.

No substantial part of the activities of the corporation shall consist of carrying on propaganda or otherwise attempting to influence legislation (except to the extent permitted under Section 501 (h) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954) or participating in, or intervening in, including the publication or distribution of statements, any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office.

In the event of dissolution, all the remaining assets and property of the corporation remaining after payment of its outstanding obligations and any expenses attendant to such dissolution shall be distributed to the Concord Free Public Library, Concord, Massachusetts, so long as such organization shall then qualify under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, or, if such organization shall not then be in existence or shall not then qualify under said Section, to such other organization, to be used in such manner, as shall then qualify under such Section and as shall, in the judgment of the Supreme Judicial Court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, best accomplish the general charitable purposes for which this corporation was formed.

All references in these Articles to Sections of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 shall include corresponding provisions of future Internal Revenue laws and applicable regulations and rulings thereunder, as any of the same may from time to time be amended.

Motion #2: To amend the by-laws of the corporation by striking Articles II and VIII and by substituting therefor the following new articles:

II. The purpose of this society shall be as set forth in its Articles of Organization.

VIII. In the event of the dissolution of the society, its assets shall be distributed as provided for in its Articles of Organization.

Amending the articles of organization of the Society requires a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of its individual members, in person or by proxy. Therefore, please return the proxy enclosed with this Bulletin at once, whether or not you intend to be present at the meeting. If you return the proxy and you do come to the meeting, you may revoke the proxy at the meeting. If the proxy is mislaid, please write Walter Harding, State University, Geneseo, New York 14454, to obtain another.

Feb. 4, 1855

At the special Feb. 25, 1981, meeting of the society, it was unanimously voted to amend the by-laws of the Society by adding the following sentences to Article V:

Only members of the Society who are natural persons shall be entitled to vote at any meeting provided for in these by-laws. Any such member may vote in person or by proxy. A proxy shall be counted for all purposes as the vote of a member present at the meeting.

PLEASE SEND YOUR PROXY IN NOW TO AVOID HAVING TO SEND OUT A SECOND REQUEST.

Feb. 13, 1855

ADDITIONS TO THE THOREAU BIBLIOGRAPHY . . . . . WH

Allen, Gay Wilson. "How Emerson, Thoreau and Whitman Viewed the Frontier" in Louis Budd et al, eds. TOWARD A NEW AMERICAN LITERARY HISTORY. Durham: Duke, 1980. pp. 111-128.

Anderson, Tom. "Thoreau's Days on Island Spent Combing Woods and Fields." STATEN ISLAND ADVANCE. Nov. 23, 1980. Includes photograph of house Thoreau lived in on Staten Island.

Bailey, Nancy. "Netting Word Power at Walden Pond." ILLINOIS ENGLISH BULLETIN, 68 (Winter, 1981), 8-11. On using WALDEN to stretch pupils' vocabularies.

Berman, Neil. "Characterization in WALDEN: Thoreau's Portrait of True and False Ego." THOREAU JOURNAL QUART. [TJQ], 12 (Oct. 1980), 17-26.

Blanding, Thomas & Walter Harding. A THOREAU ICONOGRAPHY. Review: MANAS, Jan. 21, 1981.

BUFFALO COURIER-EXPRESS. "Thoreau Twist on the Rocks." Feb. 1, 1981. Reports tale that Walden Pond Reservation people regularly add stones to the cairn at the pond so that tourists can cart them home as souvenirs.

Emerson, Ellen Tucker. THE LIFE OF LIDIAN JACKSON EMERSON. Edited by Delores Bird Carpenter. Boston: Twayne, 1980. 269 pp. Emerson's daughter Ellen, before the turn of the century, wrote a biography of her mother which until now has remained in manuscript. It has now been edited by Mrs. Carpenter and published. It is a more than welcome addition to the literature of the period for it gives us a completely new insight into the Emerson household. It is a tremendously revealing book, if sometimes only between the lines. Although Ellen always speaks adoringly of her mother, it is obvious that she must have been a very difficult person to live with and we do not wonder that RWE often looked back wistfully at the Eden of his earlier marriage. Among the many things we learn about HDT is that Edward Emerson nearly named one of his sons for Henry, that Lidian and Cynthia Thoreau were not always on the best of turns and each scratched at the other whenever the opportunity arose, and that Cynthia and Sophia Thoreau became quite infatuated with the table-tipping antics of the Spiritualists. The tale of Henry making gloves for Lidian's hens is told in greater detail. And there is many an anecdote bout Henry's "feminine foe" Sophia Foord, including a tale about her refusing to help Lidian with repairing rugs because she thought rugs a useless vanity. This volume is one of the most fascinating pictures of village life in Concord that I have come across in years. Oh that Sophia Thoreau had written a book like this about the Thoreau household!

Fleck, Richard F. CLEARING OF THE MIST. Paradise, Cal.: Dustbooks, 1979. 147pp. A novel about an Irish immigrant in the 1840s who visits Baker Farm

and hears about Thoreau from John Field! The author is a member of the society and editor of Thoreau's Indian notebooks.

Glick, Wendell. "Emerson, Thoreau, and Transcendentalism" in AMERICAN LITERARY SCHOLARSHIP: 1978. Durham: Duke, 1980. pp. 3-16. The annual bibliographical survey.

Harding, Walter. "WALDEN's Man of Science." VIRGINIA QUARTERLY REVIEW, 57 (Winter, 1981), 45-61.

Harding, Walter and Michael Meyer. The New Thoreau Handbook. New York: New York University Press, 1980. Review by Elizabeth Witherell. When A Thoreau Handbook appeared in 1959, J. Lyndon Shanley reviewed it in the fall number of this periodical, concluding that it was "an invaluable aid to any student of Thoreau" (TSB 69 Fall 1959). In this new edition, Michael Meyer has added his expertise to Walter Harding's vast fund of knowledge and the result reaffirms Shanley's judgement. Together Harding and Meyer have revised not only bibliographic information but also analyses and evaluations, with Harding responsible for the chapters on Thoreau's life, works, and reputation (1,2, and 6) and Meyer re-working the chapters on sources and ideas (3 and 4) and providing a new chapter on Thoreau's art (5).

These chapters follow the format of the earlier edition--a section discussing the subject of the chapter and quoting from selected critical books and articles followed by an annotated bibliography of sources for that discussion and for further reading. The new Handbook is necessarily selective, especially in the bibliographic sections: the authors have limited themselves to "particularly significant works and to works generally available in a good university library" (p. viii). The gist of the discussions in chapters 1,2, and 3--on Thoreau's life, works, and sources--is the same as in those chapters in the earlier edition, though the contents have changed more or less as errors have been corrected and the results of the last twenty years of scholarship incorporated. Chapters 4,5, and 6--on Thoreau's ideas, art, and reputation--reflect most clearly changes in the direction of Thoreau criticism, and recent perspectives in Transcendentalism. That movement is presented as the context of Thoreau's ideas in chapter 4, and the new chapter on Thoreau's art, though it incorporates some material found in the first edition, focusses on several issues current in Transcendentalist studies--symbolism, mythology, structural patterns, and theories of language. A whole chapter devoted to Thoreau's art is in itself an indication that an earlier strain of naive criticism of his work as artless and rude has finally been displaced by a more complex, sophisticated formulation.

The annotated bibliographies in each chapter make this new Handbook indispensible to Thoreau scholars; the discussions preceding them are well-written and full of information and should secure the book a large audience of general readers. In addition, the inclusion of subject headings in the index enhances the second edition's value for reference. All in all, the revisions amply justify a small but significant change in the title--this edition is truly The handbook of Thoreau.

Hesford, Walter. "Fishing for the Words of Life." ROCKY MOUNTAIN REVIEW, 34 (Winter, 1980), 33-45. Includes a long section on Thoreau's WEEK.

Hoffman, Scott. Thoreau clerihew. CONCORD PATRIOT Jan. 15, 1981. A poem.

Howarth, William. "Following the Tracks of a Different Man: Thoreau." NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC, 159 (March, 1981), 348-387.

Kirby, Paul. "Thoreau's Nuts, Boulders and Quiet Bombs." STUDI DI FILOLOGIA E LETTERATURA, 3 (1979), 85-90. Written to introduce Italian readers to Thoreau. Text in English.

Kleinfeld, Leonard. "Thoreau and [Henry] George" PROGRESS [Hawthorndene, South Australia], Oct. 1980. p. 9. Reprinted from FRAGMENTS.

Magill, Frank N. "Henry David Thoreau" in American Literature: Colonial Age to 1890. Pasadena: Salem Softbacks 1980. pp. 354-378. Apparently a sort of crib-book for college students with a completely botched bibliography that lists mostly second-rate articles and completely overlooks major works--for example, the whole Princeton Edition!

Mellow, James R. Nathaniel Hawthorne in His Times. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1980. 684pp. A long and detailed new biography of Hawthorne. It contains pretty much all the well-known material on the relationships of Thoreau and Hawthorne, though unfortunately some of it at least is carelessly reported, as for example stating that Thoreau rowed to Newburyport on his Merrimack trip and that the original title of "Civil Disobedience" was of all things, "Resistance to Civil Liberty"! We understand Mellow is planning to write a biography of Thoreau. Since he herein seems most often to describe Thoreau in such terms as "insufferable" and "priggish," we cannot help but wonder what that biography will be like.

Murphy, Barbara. IRISH MOSSERS AND SCITUATE HARBOUR VILLAGE. Scituate, Mass.: Pub. by author, 1980. Includes several pages on Thoreau's visit to the wreck of the St. JOHN.

O'Connell, Patrick F. "'The Battle of the Ants': Two Notes." TJQ, 12 (Oct. 1980), 9-14.

Oehlschlaeger, Fritz & George Hendrick. TOWARD THE MAKING OF THOREAU'S MODERN REPUTATION. Review: AMERICAN LITERATURE, Jan. 1981.

Roach, Marilynne. DOWN TO EARTH AT WALDEN. Review. NEW YORK TIMES. Jan. 18, 1981.

Rokugawa, Makato. [A Note on Henry David Thoreau and Shigeru Saito]. MEMOIRS OF NAGANO TECHNICAL COLLEGE, 11 (Dec. 1980), 93-103. Text in Japanese.

Ryan, George E. "Rev. Joseph Osgood." in FIGURES IN OUR CATHOLIC HISTORY. Boston: St. Paul Editions, 1979. p. 84. A sketch of Ellen Sewall's husband.

Sanborn, Frank B. HENRY DAVID THOREAU. Intro by Leo Marx. New York: Chelsea House, 1980. 324pp. Sanborn's 1882 biography, long, long out of print and increasingly difficult to find, is here reprinted in facsimile, as a paperback, with slightly modified title and with an introduction by Leo Marx. The book was an important one, for Sanborn here gave us a first-hand glimpse of Thoreau and much documentary evidence as well as many of the anecdotes that have become part of the Thoreau legend. But one of course should always read it with caution, for Sanborn was notoriously careless with facts. (It is too bad they did not reprint instead the 1910 which has some of the errors corrected.) It is also one of the most disorganized biographies ever written. Unfortunately Marx neglects to caution his readers of the flaws in the book. Nonetheless it is good to have it back in print and available once more.

Schneider, Richard J. "Humanizing Henry David Thoreau." ESQ, 27 (1981), 57-71. A long essay review of eight recent books on Thoreau. An outstanding and particularly perceptive analysis.

Van Anglen, Kevin. "A Paradise Regained: Thoreau's 'Wild Apples' and the Myth of the American Adam." ESQ, 27 (1981), 28-37.

VanDore, Wade. "Thoreau's Monument." TJQ, 12 (Oct. 1980), 3-4. Poem.

Wagenknecht, Edward. HENRY DAVID THOREAU: WHAT MANNER OF MAN? Amherst: Univ. of Mass. Press, 1981. 211pp. Over the years Edward Wagenknecht has written a number of "portraits" of the major New England authors, and now he has added one of Thoreau. It is not a biography, but a study of Thoreau's personality and beliefs, a cross-sectional study rather than a longitudinal one. As such it approaches Thoreau from quite different angles than most books. Those who attended the Friday evening session of last year's annual meeting heard Mr. Wagenknecht read a large portion of the fine section on Thoreau's religion. Other particularly good sections are those on music, travel, and pacifism and militarism. The discussion of Thoreau's puzzling attitude towards John Brown is especially enlightening. Mr. Wagenknecht writes with wit and humor, but at times he can be devastating in his criticism, as for example his commentaries on Leon Edel's approach to Thoreau. An added value of the book is that it is also a survey and evaluation of much recent scholarship in the field--Mr. Wagenknecht has obviously read just about everything that has been published on Thoreau in recent years--and his ability to synthesize that material is outstanding. Our only quarrel with the book is that we wish it were more heavily annotated--even though now it already has twenty-five pages of footnotes--for it now gives many, many interesting quotations with no indication of their source. On the whole, the book is a very sane, level-headed evaluation of Thoreau's personality and of his ideas, one that does not overlook--nor over-emphasize Thoreau's flaws and faults.

-----. The same. Review. YANKEE, March, 1981.

Yahagi, Kodo. [A PORTRAIT OF THOREAU]. Tokyo: Hakuosha, 1980. 240pp. Text in Japanese.

We are indebted to the following for information used in the bulletin: A. Berlin, F. Dedmond, R. Epler, F. Fenn, M. Grant, G. Hasenaeur, V. Halbert, R. Hilton, P. Huber, D. Jordan, A. Jensen, M. Jamison, E. Johnson, P. Kirby, K. Kaseqawa, D. Linsner, J. Moldenhauer, W. McInnes, J. Meyerson, G. Megathlin, R. Poland, G. Papademetriou, G. Ryan, E. Schofield, S. Smith, A. Small, E. Shaw, C. Seib, J. Schwartzman, R. Thompson, and J. Vickers. Please keep the secretary informed of items he has missed and new items as they appear.

Feb. 13, 1855

NOTES AND QUERIES

The Thoreau quotation beginning "What you seek in vain for . . . ," queried in the last bulletin has been identified as from Emerson's journal for May 20, 1856, where he quotes Thoreau. And Emerson repeats it in his eulogy for Thoreau.

Mrs. Lillian Ragsdale of Houston, Texas, has recently become a life member of the Thoreau Society. Life membership is one hundred dollars.

Bookseller Robert F. Lucas (P.O. Box 63, Blandford, Mass. 01008) will shortly issue a book catalog entirely devoted to Thoreau. It is to sell for three dollars.

The Henry D. Thoreau School of Wilderness Studies at Eastern Connecticut State College, Willimantic, Conn. 06226, will conduct another of their field studies courses in Thoreau's Maine Woods this summer.

According to an article in the December 19, 1980 CONCORD JOURNAL, the controversy over moving Route 126 away from Walden Pond continues.

Your secretary will conduct his usual series of seminars on Thoreau this summer in Concord with "Thoreau the Man" from June 29 to July 3; "Thoreau, Nature and Concord," July 6-10; and "Thoreau's Ideas Today," July 13-17. Write for details.

Feb. 21, 1855

REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The 1981 nominating committee, consisting of Linda Henning (chairwoman), J. Parker Huber, and Edmund Schofield) submit the following slate of officers for terms of one year each: John McAleer of Lexington, Mass., president; Ann Zwinger of Colorado Springs, Col., president-elect; and Walter Harding of Geneseo, New York, secretary-treasurer; and for terms of three years each, members of the executive committee, Frederick Wagner, Clinton, New York and Michael Meyer, Storrs, Conn.

Further nominations may be made from the floor at the annual meeting on July 11, 1981.

THE ANNUAL MEETING

The 1981 annual meeting of the society will be held at the First Parish Church in Concord, Mass., on Saturday, July 11, 1981. Speaker of the Day will be William Condry of Wales author of Thoreau (1954) in the Great Naturalists Series. The presidential address, by Anne McGrath, will be on "Growing Up in Thoreau's Concord." The coffee hour begins at 9 a.m. and the business meeting at 10, followed by the two addresses. After the luncheon there will be a choice of two activities - at 2 p.m. William Anderson will show his grandmother's (Esther Anderson) slides; at 3 p.m. a walk to the Easterbrook Woods lead by Mary Fenn; and Marcia Moss will conduct a tour of the Concord Free Public Library at 4 p.m. The Thoreau Lyceum will host a sherry and autographing party at 5 p.m. At 8 p.m. Albert Bussewitz will give an illustrated talk on "Through the Seasons with Thoreau."

At noon a luncheon will be served. Tickets ($6.00) must be reserved by July 6 through Mrs. Charles MacPherson, 46 Nagog Hill Road, Acton, Mass. 01720.

At 6 p.m. a box supper will be served at the Thoreau Lyceum. Tickets ($4.00) must be reserved by July 6. Reservations must be made in advance. They may be made on the enclosed postal card ballot or to the two persons listed above. Persons making reservations are responsible for payment unless we are notified of cancellation before July 6th.

On Friday evening July 10th, the Thoreau Lyceum will sponsor a lecture at 8:30 by Frederick Wagner of Hamilton College on Thoreau and Alcott.

For people who wish to make hotel or motel reservations in advance, there are the Colonial Inn, the Hawthorne Inn, and Howard Johnsons in Concord; the Concordian Motel in Acton; the Bedford Motel, the Lord Bedford Motor Inn, and Travelodge in Bedford; and the Battle Green Inn, the Catch Penny Chalet, and the Sheraton Motor Inn in Lexington.